

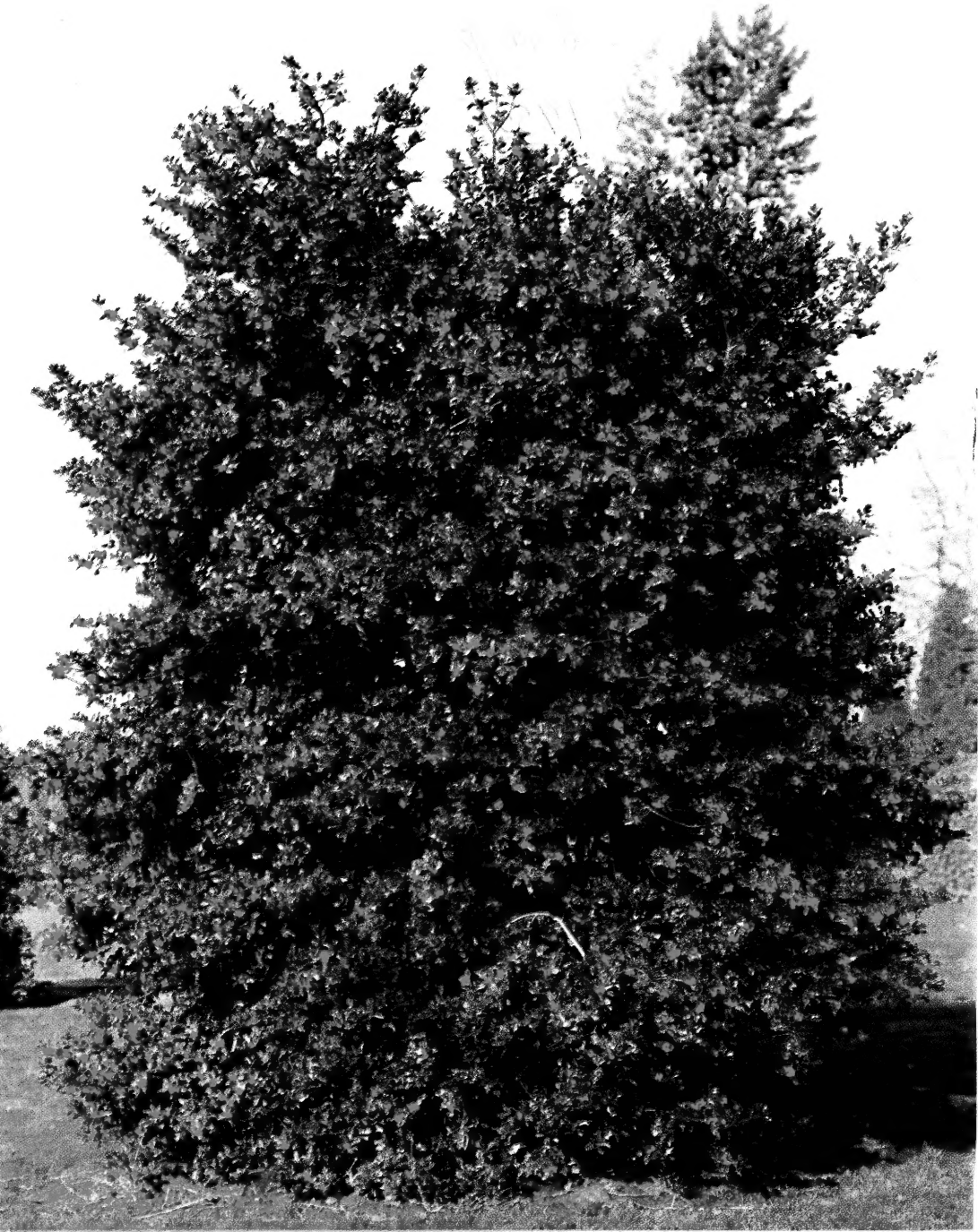
Brownell Farms, Milwaukee

Royal Red

# *Hollies*

**FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD**

**BROWNELL HOLLY ARBORETUM AND NURSERY**



Parent tree of nationally famous Rederly variety of *Ilex Aquifolium* growing in the Brownell *Ilexetum*. "Grandma" Rederly's offspring are numbered in the thousands, both in the commercial holly groves of the Pacific Northwest and as specimen trees growing in the gardens of holly enthusiasts everywhere.

*Visitors are always welcome at the*

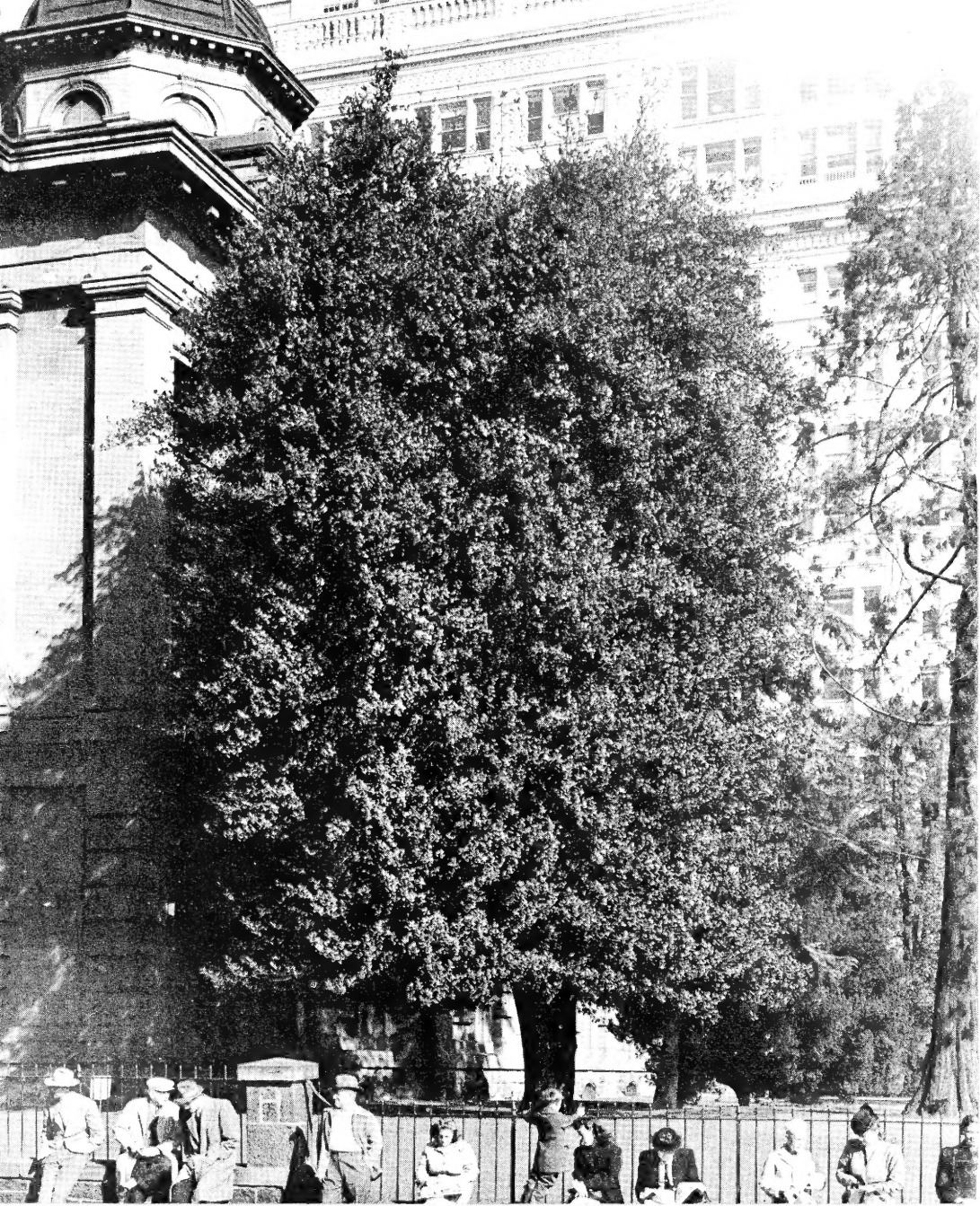
*Brownell Holly Arboretum and Nursery*



AMBROSE BROWNELL  
*collector, propagator and  
grower of fine hollies—an  
undertaking commenced  
in 1910 by his late father,  
Senator George C.  
Brownell, who planted  
one of America's first  
commercial groves  
of true English holly.*

**I**N THIS, our first catalog, we present a listing of species and named varieties of European, Asian and American hollies now growing in the Brownell Ilexetum, and generally available at our holly nursery.

Our specialty is the collection and propagation of every recognized and desirable variety of English Holly, coupled with the naming and introduction of new clonal selections.



## One of the oldest hollies in Oregon

Dating from 1874 this massive English Holly has been a landmark on the site of the Pioneer Post Office in downtown Portland, Oregon. The trunk of this great holly measures approximately three feet in diameter and eight feet in circumference, and soars to a lofty fifty feet of towering height. A veritable December poem in scarlet and green it radiates its glowing red color which appears as a signal beacon to the residents on the hillsides which rise high above the business district.

(See page 16)



# *Oregon's Heritage*

## OF HOLLY

English Holly is but a single member of the widespread genus *Ilex* which numbers in its botanical family of the hollies of the world between five and six hundred named and separately identified species. In fact, English Holly is better known to those who specialize in the order and naming of our flora, the taxonomists, as *Ilex Aquifolium*. This latin name when freely translated means holly whose foliage is armored with sharp spines, *aqui* being derived from *acus* the needle. By no means confined to England, *Ilex Aquifolium* is found widely distributed in its natural habitat reaching across the temperate zone of Europe, Asia Minor, and eastward to far away China.

Yet here in the coastal region of the Pacific Northwest we have good reason for referring to our hollies as being of English origin. Well over a century ago the skippers of English trading vessels sailed their precarious way around formidable Cape Horn seeking cargoes of furs, and sea routes to treasures of oriental silks and spices. Following discovery and exploration of the rich Oregon country, colonies of hardy British fur traders and their families were established at ports of entry along the densely forested shores about the years 1824 to 1844.

Presided over by Hudson's Bay Company Factors our early English immigrants were supplied by sailing ships from their native country not only with articles of trade and the necessities of life, but with letters and packets of seed and even little potted hollies to remind them of their homeland. Thus well over one hundred years ago in a verdant new land of salubrious sunshine alternating with misty skies our earliest settlers planted and grew the first of Oregon's hollies.

How happy those lonely colonists must have felt as they decked their rude homes and hearths in the traditional Christmas manner with true holly from England. Today these original English holly importations and their multitudinous offspring remain our pride and joy, a veritable heritage of holly, a living legacy from Britain.



## The Brownell Holly Nursery

Here in our nursery are well over 50,000 potted hollies ranging from rooted cuttings to sturdy specimens five and six years of age. Represented are some 17 species and well over 100 named varieties. A sizeable acreage is covered to a depth of two feet with sawdust and into which the pots are plunged for the protection of the roots of the hollies from either drying or freezing. The potting soil is a standardized and tested mixture well calculated to provide the correct medium and proper nutrients for optimum growth of the hollies. An extensive planting of field grown hollies is maintained for the supply of larger and older specimen stock.

# OREGON

## *the Home of the Hollies*

The growing of English holly for sale at the Christmas season originated in the coastal region of the Pacific Northwest about the year 1900. From the time of Oregon's official recognition as a Territory of the United States in 1848 our farms and cities have been peopled largely from the flow of settlers pioneering their way westward in search of new homesteads and fortunes in a land of promise and plenty.

It became the custom of Oregonians to remember their eastern friends and relatives at the Christmas time with boxes filled brimming with the bright red berried branches of English holly and clipped from huge trees abounding in the area. Our earliest florists joined in the spirit of the occasion by offering special gift packages of Christmas Holly for those who had neither trees of their own, nor time or inclination to prune and prepare the prickly leaved holly for shipment.

Thus encouraged by a growing demand for holly at the Christmas season, and for living hollies for landscaping, our first nurserymen began at about the turn of the century to select and propagate from seemingly the choicest of the seedling trees. The first holly grove at the Brownell Farms and consisting of 400 budded seedlings was set out in 1910, and is today one of the oldest commercial plantings of English Holly on the Pacific Coast.

## *The Role of the Brownell Holly Farms*

To the Brownell Farms fell the lot of pioneering the first large scale out-of-state shipments of Oregon grown holly. Our earliest holly orders rode the waves aboard ocean freighters bound for California markets. Within a few years our holly found ready welcome in the florist shops of Denver, Kansas City, St. Louis and Chicago. By 1930 trade-marked holly from the Brownell Farms "Where Your Christmas Holly Grows" was placed on sale in nearly



**1** Inspecting the skillful handling of nearly ten thousand pounds of earth ball tightly encasing the roots of a 40-year-old berried giant holly.



**3** Finally planted and thriving in their new home in the heart of the nation's capital, these English Hollies from Oregon are beautifying a modern office building.

Brownell  
Grows  
and Ships  
Them All

# No Holly Too Large



**2** Safely loaded for a 3,000 mile journey from west to east these great hollies will be securely covered with netting to protect their branches from the whipping winds encountered en route.

# ...and None Too Small

**4** Daughter Gloria finds the selection and packaging of smaller hollies for shipment well in line with her talents for both accuracy and artistry.



every principal city of the United States, where it is recognized today as the symbol of superior quality.

Coupled with these annual bulk shipments of holly destined for resale came the development of a unique direct mail order gift package trade. Assisted by sponsorship from the Garden Club of America, and promoted by a personalized national advertising campaign, our wreaths and berried sprays of Christmas holly from "Ambrose and Helen" have been received with expressed enthusiasm for over thirty years in thousands of American homes, and in every state, and even in foreign lands.

## *The Quest for Perfection in Holly*

While participating in the development of a new agricultural industry by pioneering the sale of Christmas Holly we were continually conscious of the need for improvement in the quality of the trees. Early propagators with scant knowledge of market requirements had mistakenly chosen types deficient and unsuited for competitive commercial production. No true to type or proven horticultural varieties were available from any source at home or abroad.

Equipped with several years of study and practice in the art of propagation, and well prepared with long years of experience in the growing, buying and selling of holly, we set out in the early thirties upon a quest for the beauty queens of the holly world. First for weeks, then for months and now after long years the search for perfection in holly has proved to be the most exciting and truly rewarding task in my entire lifetime spent among the lovely hollies. At times it has been somewhat like chasing rainbows, and how thrilled we all are when we discover after relentless search a pot-o-gold in the form of a new holly starlet.

Then having found our heart's desire we proceed to christen her as we undertake by vegetative means to multiply her over and over again. By severing tiny tips from her branches and plunging them for a time into warm moist sand a miracle of nature takes place. Rootlets take form to nourish the tender treelets, and our queen is recreated a thousand times over into a clone of identical reproduc-





### THE BROWNELL ILEXETUM

Here one will find America's most complete collection of new and old world hollies: exotic ornamentals, evergreen and deciduous, with leaves of green, gold and silver coloration, and berries of scarlet, orange, yellow and black; all planted in arboretum arrangement for the pleasure and study of our visitors.

tions presaging the birth of a newly named horticultural variety of holly.

In this manner the Brownell Farms became the source of the first garden varieties of English Holly to be named in America. Our original introductions now proving to be invaluable contributions to the demand for superior holly were called: *Rederly*, for the early ripening habit of her berries; *Silvary*, a contraction of silver variegated; and *Escort*, a male holly of breeding and bearing fit to grace the company of Their Majesties, the Queens of the Hollies and their regal retinue of lovely princesses. Although in the intervening years numerous other courtly ladies and gentlemen have been elevated to royalty, and appropriate titles conferred, yet the ceaseless quest for perfection continues.

# HOLLIES

## *From All Over the World*

Perhaps the most fascinating phase of holly culture conducted in recent years at the Brownell Farms has been the acquisition of numerous other species of holly in addition to *Aquifolium* and its many varieties. By importation from European nurseries and through purchase and barter, and by generous gifts from American nurserymen and holly specialists, we have accumulated what is undoubtedly one of the most complete collections of both rare and common hollies in existence.

We have chosen to name our arboretum devoted exclusively to displaying the hollies an *Ilexetum*, a collection of *Ilex* or the hollies of the world. Over the years pictures have been painted at the Brownell Farms, not with oils nor with textiles or ceramics, but with sweeping acres of green lawns studded with random spaced plantings of the choicest of specimen hollies.

A large section sloping to the southwest provides a dramatic stage setting for the English Hollies garbed in their leaves of glossy green, silver and gold. As Christmas approaches the regal jewels are brought forth and the ladies of the court decorate themselves with gleaming berries set like rubies against an emerald background.

A gently rolling area marked with an occasional oak has been planted to native North American species, while the sides of a grassy valley have been embroidered with the dwarf *Crenatas* and other curious hollies from the Orient. A space is reserved for South American species said to be the most numerous of all. Already the *Ilexetum* is proving to be a center of attraction for Garden Clubs, and a mecca for visitors who are making a pilgrimage to view and learn of the hollies of the world. Those with whom we have been privileged to share our hollies are finding that they grow not merely in the soil but in the hearts and affections of their owners as well.

Fortunately for today's holly enthusiasts England's nineteenth century gardeners were possessed not only with fabulously green thumbs, but with an intense and understanding love for their native

hollies. To further stimulate their interest in the hollies annual showings were held with England's foremost horticulturists competing for prizes awarded for winning introductions of hollies of exceptional distinction and beauty.

Vieing with one another these early English nurserymen sought far and wide to extend their collections of hollies to include many other species of *Ilex* from foreign lands. Cooperating with the enthusiastic nurserymen in their search for new and exotic varieties were the willing hollies themselves ever prone to sport and mutate from bud and seed alike. Almost chameleon-like the English Hollies proved to be the most versatile of all the other species in changing habits of coloration and growth, and seemingly almost at will.

Thus as long ago as 1874-76 the English Gardeners' Chronicle illustrated and described 153 named garden varieties of English Holly (*aquifolium*) in a monumental monograph by Thomas Moore. This apparently initial effort at Holly nomenclature was followed in a noteworthy manner by the publication in 1908 of "Holly, Yew and Box" compiled and written by Dr. William Dallimore while serving as curator of the world-famous Kew Gardens in London.

Interestingly enough the next serious effort to acquaint the English speaking public with the Hollies, now so universally immortalized by their association with the celebration of Christmas, came about almost fifty years later with the publication in 1953 of Dr. H. Harold Hume's book of the "Hollies," a treatise characterized by intense fidelity to the subject material.

With this introduction I shall proceed to list the hollies growing at the Brownell Ilexetum in the following order :

- I. Brownell named Selections of English Holly (I.A.)
- II. All other named varieties of English Holly (I.A.)  
as follows :
  - (A) With leaves of green coloration
  - (B) With leaves decorated in gold and silver.
  - (C) Unusual and curious forms.
- III. Hollies from the Orient.
- IV. Native American Hollies.
- V. Hybrid Hollies.

# Ilex Aquifolium, I. A.

I: Brownell named horticultural varieties of English Holly, I. A.

- **ESCORT\***, *M*—1935. Selected primarily as a profuse producer of pollen for maximum utility in commercial plantings. A sturdy, free growing, green leaved, decorative and dependable pollinizer, a real he-holly of distinction and purpose.
- **FIRECRACKER**, *F*—1935. Fairly explodes into flaming color, often with every branch loaded with crimson berry clusters. Early ripening and earliest of all to mature. A persistent berry producer at three to four years. Growth habit shrubby, leaves spiny, berries firm.
- **GREEN KNIGHT\***, *M*—1950. An ornamental as well as highly useful member of the holly family. The male pollinizer is a “must” selection for those who would cultivate the lovely lady hollies for their berries. With his dark green habit this stately holly becomes the perfect choice as a life companion for all the English holly maidens, be they garbed in green or arrayed with silver and gold.
- **GREEN MAID**, *F*—1940. An unusually vigorous and fast growing hardy holly. Highly resistant to damage from weather extremes, it is adaptable to wide climatic variations. Leaves large with lots of luster and substance. Stems green, matching leaves in color. Berries large, early to ripen. Growing habit graceful, leaves dense, berries well dispersed.
- **REDERLY**, *F*—1935. Named for the early November reddening of its heavy clusters of brilliant berries. Stems slender, bark brown, leaves dark green with high gloss and unusual substance. A tall erect growing holly of great beauty. (See inside front cover).
- **SILVARY**, *F*—1935 (*Silver Princess*) *Argentea Marginata*. Spiny leaves edged with bright silver band surrounding glossy green centers. Bark light green, often with white spiraling stripes. Berries showy red, early ripening, appear in heavy well dispersed clusters. Matures to a symmetrical compact conical shape illuminating the landscape the year round. New growth tinged with reddish purple.
- **SPECIAL**, *F*—1940. Fast growing thrifty holly. Leaves uncommonly large of deep green hue and well spined. Berries early to color in arresting opalescent shade of red, profuse, unbelievably large. From the Special we cut the spectacular long branched berried holly sprays for the select New York and Eastern florist trade. (Inside back cover.)

\* Please note that while male hollies are required for planting with female hollies to assure the latter fruiting, and although the males bloom in the spring tra-la, they do not themselves bear fruit. Their mission completed, the male staminate blooms just fade away to reappear another year.

*M*—denotes male gender or staminate holly; *F*—female or pistillate.

## II: Other named English Holly varieties including importations and numerous distinctive types originating in the Pacific Northwest.

### A. Hollies with leaves all green in color (See also II, C).

#### 1. Green Hollies with small leaves up to about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length.

ANGUSTIFOLIA, *M* and *F*—from angus meaning narrow and folia leaf. See Petit and Petite below. Little lance-like leaves dark green with high gloss



ANGUSTIFOLIA

and lying flat with minute marginal spines. Berries of the feminine form are brilliant red and so small as to excite attention. Charming compact columnar growth forming tall green pillars, ideal for framing a gateway or marking a garden path.

The Angustifolia, itself a mutation, is prone to sporting back to the norm of the Aquifolium species. The propagation of these frequently recurring bud deviations has resulted in the production of numerous and attractive intermediate varietal forms. The following small leaved hollies described by Dallimore could have originated from Aquifolium as did Angustifolia or because of their general similarity they could in part at least have first appeared as sports from Angustifolia; Myrtifolia; Serratifolia; Ciliata; Microphylla; Lineata.

DONNINGTONESIS, *M*—As are most of the small leaved hollies it is conspicuous for the dark purple coloration of bark. While slow of growth its pyramidal form makes it a most effective specimen. Even the leaves reflect a dull purplish tint in contrast to the bright and shining greens displayed by its little companions in this category.

➤ ECHO, *F*—(Brownell). A lovely and tiny but wavy leaved fruiting form originating from Angustifolia and appearing to celebrate its liberation from long years of concealment within a diminutive mutation by echoing the beauty of its ancestral species.

HANDSWORTHENSIS, *M*—A smartly groomed gentleman holly, appearing with impeccable habit of symmetrically conical growth, and dressed with well trimmed leaves each alike and with tiny spines standing at attention all pointing tipward.

HASTATA, *M*—(Latispina Minor). Small, choice and utterly different. Named hastata meaning halberd because of the remarkable similarity of the leaf shape to the medieval pike with sharp steel blade and side spikes, and used so devastatingly by armored knights of yore for gory helmet splitting.

✂ LATISPINA MINOR, *M*—(see Hastata).

➤ LILLIBET, *F*—(Brownell). Sport from Angustifolia closely resembling Dallimore's I.A. Myrtifolia. Also sometimes sold by English nurseries under name of Angustifolia. A lovely berrying but somewhat broader leaved form of Angustifolia with a low spreading growth in contrast to the columnar characteristic of its counterpart. A pleasing holly with shining leaves that sparkle in the sunlight.

➤ LILLIPUT, *M*—(Brownell). Male form of Lillibet above.

MYRTIFOLIA (Dallimore). See Lillibet.



OVATA, *M*—A most personable and orderly individual with roundish leaves neatly armored and smartly veined in uniform geometrical patterns, this formal and precise little holly invariably becomes a favorite conversation piece.

- PETIT, *M*—(Brownell). Male form of *Angustifolia*, above.

PETITE, *F*—(Brownell). Female form of *Angustifolia*.

RECURVA, *M*—(*Serratifolia Compacta*). A most sprightly specimen with saucy little valled leaves, each ending with an odd twist and perky tip spine leaning over in a backward salute. For

those who love tidiness in nomenclature this garden variety of curvaceous leaf was apparently named *Tortuosa* by England's nurseryman Fisher and so noted in Moore's monograph appearing in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* of November 28, 1874. It is still cataloged and sold as *Tortuosa* by Fisher and Sons. Other nurserymen, however, chose the name *Recurva* and *Serratifolia Compacta* as did Dallimore in 1908, thus leaving *Tortuosa* as a preferred equivalent to *Crispa*, *Screw Leaf* or *Calamistrata* and described later in this catalog.

SERRATIFOLIA COMPACTA, *M*—See *Recurva*.

## 2. Hollies with Green Leaves of Normal or Larger Size.

- BALKAN, *M*—(Brownell). A stout, spiny holly, christened Marshal Tito and brought to America from the high mountain country of Yugoslavia by a botanical party in search of hardy boxwoods (*Buxus*). Snatched from the very mouths of a hungry herd of grazing goats this once little holly lived to tell a tale of the nomadic nature of the far flung *Aquifoliums*.

- N. F. BARNES, *F*—An English importation with long, graceful, well-spined leaves which have that thick tough feeling which we call substance. A fine garden variety of holly characterized by purplish coloration of the twig bark.

W. J. BEAN, *F*—A choice compact growing holly with wavy leaves well spined in the traditional manner. Imported from English nurseries where it has been a popular garden variety for many years.

BERIGOLD, *F*—(Brownell). (See also *Fructu-luteo*). Originating in the Pacific Northwest, this pale fruited holly is popular for illuminating our evergreen backgrounds. Leaves are gently spined and berries are both brilliant and profuse. *Berigold* is a choice selection and happily named.

- BONANZA, *F*—(Brownell). Only rarely does one make a new and promising discovery among the seedling hollies. This "find" is presented as a starlet by a connoisseur of fine hollies. She is garbed with closely-grouped leaves of rich green color, well spined and wavy,

deeply channeled along the midrib and somewhat triangular in shape. Each leaf is tipped with a long prominent spine ending in a saucy twist. Berries are clustered and adorn our *Bonanza* in rich profusion.

CAMELLIAEFOLIA, *F*—(*Heterophylla major*). A most handsome import with polished leaves elongated, and occasionally and often only partially armored with softly undulating spines. Large red berries in heavy clusters



BERIGOLD

adorn this queenly holly. Collectors should place the *Camelliaefolia* on their "must" list.

- **CAPTAIN BONNEVILLE, *M***—(Brownell). A dignified, pleasing holly found on the banks of the Columbia River near the Bonneville Dam. Broad of foliage and "handsome is as handsome does," Captain Bonneville is a proud and worthy male true to the best traditions of fine old English holly.

Captain **ROYAL, *M***—(See Dutch Hollies below.)

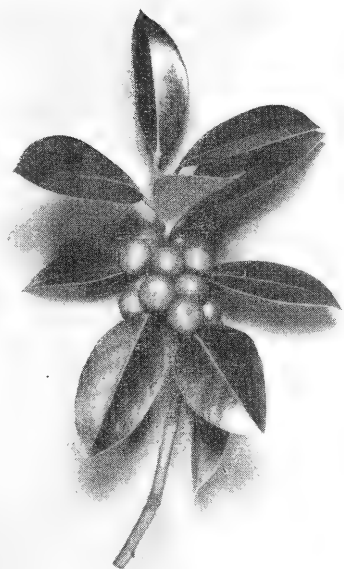
#### DUTCH HOLLIES

Originating as seedling mutations in the Pacific Northwest are countless hollies with smooth and beautiful leaves quite free from the sharp spines so typical of the traditional aspect of the English hollies. These choice but distinctive hollies are colloquially referred to as being "Dutch" to contrast them with the more popular spiny leaved types. Be it known, however, that these so-called Dutch hollies are most prolific and persistent in fruiting and can be depended upon year after year to produce those firm big berries so perfect for studding the Christmas holly wreaths with crimson clusters. We have chosen three most outstanding specimens for perpetuation as named varieties. All are vigorous growers, hardy and adaptable to a wide range of climate. (See also page 17.)

- **ROYAL RED, "DUTCH" *F***—(Brownell). See illustration front cover. Conspicuous for bold, rounded leaves of heavy texture and their rich color of deep dark green. Leaves are most generally tipped with but a single, often blunted, spine. Berries of near cherry size are amazingly firm and colorful and appear in huge clusters.

- **CAPTAIN ROYAL, "DUTCH" *M***—(Brownell). As handsome and gallant as would be expected of the counterpart of Royal Red, and a veritable identical twin except for gender.

- **FIRELIGHT, "DUTCH" *F***—(Brownell). A most graceful holly with a penchant for providing strikingly beautiful berry clusters in persistent profusion. Leaves so slender, soft and shapely as to remind one of milady's delicate fingers. (A holly being offered under the name of *Platyphylla Pallida* would appear to be similar. See page 17).



ROYAL RED

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**ESCORT, *M***—(Brownell). See page 11.

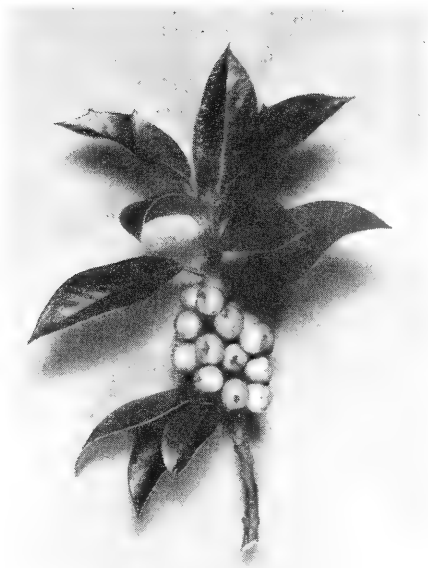
**FIRECRACKER, *F***—(Brownell). See page 11.

**FISHERII, *M***—An unusual imported staminate holly differentiated by purple bark and many wedge-shaped leaves bearing but a single tip spine. Other leaves of irregular armature are equipped with broadly based marginal spines.

**FOXII, *M***—A purple barked holly import with leaves serrated by broadly based spines pointing tipward. A really sharp character, or should I say a gentleman's gentleman.

**FRUCTU AURANTIACO, *F***—Orange Berry. (See Orange Gem p. 15.)

**FRUCTU-LUTEO, *F***—Yellow Fruited. (See Berigold page 13.) Two choice hollies bearing yellow or golden colored fruit are listed. The English import, *Fructu-luteo*, dates from olden times and is highly regarded by gardeners for its cheerful capacity to brighten an otherwise dark and gloomy landscape. The leaves of this varietal selection are fiercely spined and for a gentler specimen our Berigold has been chosen.



ORANGE GEM

GREEN KNIGHT, *M*—(Brownell). See page 11.

GREEN MAID, *F*—(Brownell). See page 11.

➤ GREEN PLANE, *F*—(Brownell). Possesses a striking leaf, long, bold and sharply pointed varying in armature from entire margins to fully spined with all points lying within the plane of the leaf. It possesses a strong fruiting habit and is a robust growing holly of graceful mien. One of our finest introductions.

HETEROPHYLLA, *F*—A Dutch type import which, true to its name, is clothed with leaves of heterogeneous composition. One might say, "just a crazy mixed-up kid unable to make up her mind." The botanical naming represents a departure from the usual Latin nomenclature which could just as well have been *Variefolia*. Since the Greeks always have a word for everything, the name of our subject can be translated literally as "mixed" (*hetero*) "leaf" (*phylla*), the holly with both smooth and spiny leaves. This tendency for erratic appearance of leaf spines is a trait common to many of the hollies both named and nameless.

LAEVIGATA POLYCARPA, *F*—See J. C. Van Tol page 17.

LAURIFOLIA, *M*—Another Dutch type import with leaves long and slender and almost entirely spineless. Identified in part by its somewhat reddish bark, this holly represents perhaps the best of the males of the elongated and smooth-leaved varieties. It is a trim and well-groomed holly and should not be overlooked by the ardent collector.

MARNOCKII, *F*—One of the most striking of our imported hollies with bold, well-spined leaves, prominently veined, but with some tendency to produce smooth and partially armored leaves at the top of the tree. This holly, characterized by purplish colored bark of dark complexion is a rapid growing variety. Its berries, while not overly large, are profuse and richly colored.

➤ MARSHAL TITO, *M*—(Brownell). See Balkan page 13.

ORANGE BERRY, *F*—(*Fructu Aurantiaco*). See Orange Gem below.

➤ ORANGE GEM, *F*—(Brownell). Also *Fructu Aurantiaco*. The chameleon-like berries of this curious holly indulge in several changing phases first appearing in the springtime as green, then taking on a pale yellow cast. By autumn a blush of red emerges to produce the orange coloration. As the berries remain persistent on the tree throughout the long winter months, the red becomes so suffused that it finally dominates the last of the clinging fruit. Leaves are long, pointed and but slightly spined. Possibly originating as a seedling cross between hollies of red and yellow berry inheritance, the orange berried holly possesses conversational value as well as being an attractive addition to the *Ilexetum*.

➤ OREGON MAJESTY, *F*—(Brownell). No other title seems so appropriate to describe this Queen of the Cascades, Oregon's mighty mountain range. For sheer splendor, size and beauty of leaf and berry, Oregon Majesty is beyond compare. We take pride presenting this exciting and magnificent addition to our roster of "Hollies of Royalty."



FIRECRACKER

PENDULA, *F*—A weeping holly from Kew Gardens. This rare and fascinating holly presents a veritable cascade of drooping branches which appear to be borne downward by the weight of their heavy clusters of brilliant red berries.

- POST OFFICE, *F*—(Brownell). There are many hollies of more than passing historical interest and which might well be preserved for posterity. In this category is one of Oregon's largest, oldest and best beloved hollies fairly dominating the grounds of the Pioneer Post Office in central downtown Portland. (See photo page 2.) Although once identified by a member of the staff of Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum as Canary Island holly of Species Perado, Variety Platyphylla, it is more probably one of our native "Dutch" hollies described and mentioned in some detail on page 14. For observation on the close resemblance between the "Dutch" and Island hollies see page 17. Planted as a young seedling at the time of the erection of the Post Office in 1874, this monarch is at least 80 years old. Miniature reproductions are now available, rooted from living branches of this ancient and noble tree which has long watched over the birth and development of a western metropolis.

- PRINCESS PAT, *F*—(Brownell). Chosen as the most faithful of the hollies to grow into a natural conical form of exceptional symmetry. Each spreading branch fairly bursts into a spray of branchlets to produce a sheared effect on the exterior of this dainty and delightful holly. Beautifully leaved and filled with bright red berries, our Princess Pat is often called the Christmas Tree Holly.

PYRAMIDALIS, *F*—An Aquifolium much favored by nurserymen of The Netherlands. It was named for its so-called pyramidal growth habit, but which of course is really conical. Leaves are somewhat small and elongated, generally smooth, but with occasional weak spines. Principal virtue of this Dutch-type is its persistent annual fruiting of extremely early reddening berries.

REDERLY, *F*—(Brownell). Page 11.

ROYAL RED, *F*—(Brownell). See Dutch Hollies, page 14.

SCOTICA, *F*—A cheerful and lustrous berrying holly from old English gardens. It grows in shrub-like compact form and might quite properly have been included in the list of small leaved varieties. Belonging to the purple barked series, its curious leaves are both dense and intensely green and most unusually shaped in somewhat oval form with a thick rolled edge enclosing a waved and cupped surface. Almost devoid of spines, its thickened leathery but polished leaves set Scotica apart from all the other hollies.

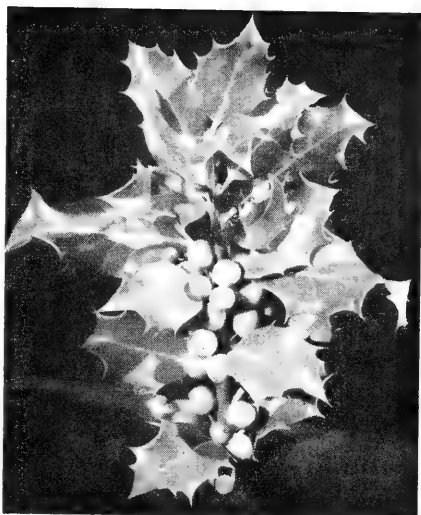
SPECIAL, *F*—(Brownell). See page 11.

- SUNNYBROOKE, *M*—(Brownell). Before attempting to describe our hero, we must bring a much needed and helpful word into play. It is divaricate and is a technical term used to describe the habit of the holly leaf spines to point in diverse or opposite directions, some upward and some downward from the plane of the leaf. Now when we reach the ultimate in divarification with one fierce spine pointing straight downward and the next straight upward at 180 degree angle and measuring over an inch from opposite tips we have described the Fancy Dan of the hollies.

✓ **SUNNYSIDE**, *F*—(Brownell). We just had to have a partner in arms for high spirited Sunnybrooke and so Sunnyside was chosen to be his life companion, being equally divaricate but with leaves just slightly smaller. By all odds they are the most prickly pair in all Hollydom.

**J. C. VAN THOL** (or **TOL**), *F*—Also *Laevigata Polycarpa*. Sometimes listed under heading of *Altaclarensis*. Although smooth of leaf it is not just another Dutch-type holly. Its glossy leaves, usually somewhat convex, are highly polished and unmistakably veined with intriguing patterns. Even the early reddening bright berries gleam with opalescent sheen and sparkle with reflected sunlight. Early to mature, this pleasant holly bedecks herself from childhood with ruby jewels usually reserved for the hollies more adult in years.

**YELLOW BERRY**, *F*—(See Berigold and Fructu Luteo.) Pages 13 and 14.



**REDERLY**

### 3. The Island Hollies and their Children of Part English Parentage.

First to be listed are the broad leafed hollies from the Balearic, Canary and Madeira Islands and considered by some authorities to represent two distinct species named *Ilex Perado* and *Ilex Platyphylla*, the latter taken from the Greek, meaning with plate-like leaves. Suffice it to say at this point that other authorities have chosen to consider the Island Hollies under the single species heading of *Perado*, with *Platyphylla* preferred as a varietal name.

Since confusion reigns supreme as to the origins and proper classification of these magnificent hollies, perhaps further, though purely layman, speculation may be deemed permissible. It is, therefore, suggested that a logical hypothesis would be to assume that far in the distant past the forms of *Ilex Platyphylla* and *Ilex Perado* might have originated as seed sports from *Ilex Aquifolium* and have been carried by chance or human choice to these off-shore islands. There in perfect isolation and over the years they could have continued to reproduce themselves with reasonable fidelity as to type, and thus have become fixed as botanical varieties or sub-species of *Aquifolium*.

While the final decisions as to the validity of species determinations are perhaps best left to the taxonomists, and to those qualified in plant anatomical analysis, may it be observed here that many of our Pacific Northwest "Dutch" hollies so closely resemble both the *Ilex Perado* and *Ilex Platyphylla*, at least superficially, that we must lean heavily upon our nursery tags for their identification. (See Dutch Hollies page 14.)



For the further information of our patient readers, the following hollies were obtained in considerable number directly from famous English nurseries recommended to us by the Secretary of the British Royal Horticultural Society. The nomenclature accompanying these imported hollies has been preserved with fidelity. As these named hollies are but selected specimens representative of species or subspecies of *Ilex*, it should be recognized that they undoubtedly occur in both male and female forms.

**BALEARICA, F**—Like all of the hollies in this category, the bold, handsome leaves of leathery substance are of major prominence. In *Balearica* the well-veined leaves are gently channeled along the midrib while the spines when present lie flat within the leaf plane. Green barked except for young purplish twigs, this pistillate selection exhibits a generous fruiting characteristic.

**MADERENSIS, F**—This handsome holly of feminine gender is thought to have exerted much influence in the appearance of the famous line of "hybrid" hollies which are described in the following listing. It is a striking type indeed with its large valleyed leaves and multitudinous spines tilted tipward along the full length of the regular and well-defined margins.

**MADERENSIS ATROVIRENS, F**—A green twiggied variation with more rounded wavy leaves and deeper hue of green.

**MADERENSIS VARIEGATA, F**—A fine sport from *Maderensis* prominently marked by leaves with central gold coloration.

**PERADO, F**—A stout growing green stemmed holly clothed with generously rounded bright green leaves and with a slight tendency on the part of some toward cupping concavely. The leaf armature is erratic so that some are quite devoid of protection while others are fully spined with flat lying points. The berries are red and round and ripen early with arresting color. (Note: In all outward appearance except berry size and shape, *Perado* could easily be mistaken as the twin of our Royal Red featured on the front cover.)

**PLATYPHYLLA, F**—True to its name meaning the holly with flat round leaves like a plate. With stems of dark purple and leaves a deep green this handsome holly could well have exerted much influence when crossed with the typical English hollies. Though weakly spined, its bold commanding foliage attracts much attention.

**PLATYPHYLLA NIGRESCENS, F**—With stems so purple as to be almost black and with its dense foliage of darkest green, this strange holly is aptly named. Even the fruits are of dark complexion.

We shall now present the so-called hybrid progeny of the Island and English hollies. The ubiquitous *Ilex* species of the world and numbering some five hundred odd which have been identified to date are little given to natural crossing or hybridizing. It is not that hybrids are unknown, but they are rare indeed except between the Island hollies and *Ilex Aquifolium*. The freedom and readiness of these several named species to cross pollinate, and produce a perfectly magnificent series of "hybrids," is perhaps a partial justification for my previously stated speculation as to the relationship existing between the species concerned being much closer than is generally recognized.

At this point in nomenclature there are those who choose to precede the identifying name of each of the so-called hybrids with the specific

title of *Altaclarensis*. Other authorities have preferred to use *Altaclarensis* as the name of a single choice male form and thought to have resulted as a hybrid from the intermingling of the species under consideration.

At the Brownell Ilexetum we have chosen to accept the hollies and their names as furnished by our cooperative and most reliable British nurserymen as being both authoritative and adequate. Surely with these hollies of such obvious nobility, there should be no nullifying arguments over obscure origins. Let them remain shrouded with a bit of mystery as we seek by word and picture to describe the fascinating facets of their arresting beauty and charm.

**ALTACLARENSIS, M**—From Kew's famed collection of fine hollies this bold and broad leafed scion of royalty wears the royal purple which distinguishes the color of its bark. Said to be nearly identical with "Nobilis" and perchance his royal brother.

**LAWSONIANA, F**—(see *Hendersonii* Aurea).

➤ **ATKINSONII, M**—One of my favorite hollies with most unusual leaves so deeply veined as to bring out in bas-relief a gleaming green surface suggesting the grain of polished leather. It is neatly and fully armored, a true gentleman holly and ever so correctly attired.

**BELGICA, F**—A graceful member of the family with slightly wavy and well veined leaves of substance and character. Stem wood of light green and a delicate preciseness of form and foliage mark this fruiting holly with a distinctly feminine touch.

**HENDERSONII, F**—A vigorous green twigged holly characterized by a neat twist to its deeply veined and thickened leaves of mostly smooth margins. A strong fruiting holly and deserving of attention.

**HENDERSONII AUREA, F**—(*Lawsoniana*). A handsome mutation with appearance identical to parent except for brilliant golden coloration illuminating the central portions of its leaves.

**HODGINSII, M**—A right handsome and authoritative male with broad, rounded leaves well armored with prominent and divaricate spines. Twig bark is of purple coloration. A commanding holly withal, and with the air of the military about him. (See *Shepherdii* below for similar type.)



WILSONII

➤ **MOOREII, M**—An amazing sort of identical twin to *Mundayi*, or should I say one of triplets as it is also the counterpart of *Wilsonii* but in opposite gender. One of the truly outstanding hollies of great beauty and merit, its polished green leaves are massive in size, beautifully veined and armored, all in a most uniform and attractive pattern.

➤ **MUNDAYI, M**—For my money this vigorous and striking holly is identical to *Mooreii* and yet there just could be

some undiscovered point of dissimilarity. Both are worthy of high place in the esteem of the lovers of the hollies.

**SHEPHERDII, M**—Even more military like than his cousin *Hodginsii*, this arresting male of bold and armored attire is unmistakably masculine with leaves and bark of dark complexion. (See *Hodginsii* above.)

**WILSONII, F**—It seems that the most beautiful of the broad leafed hollies has been reserved to the last. But far from least, *Wilsonii* is the true beauty queen of the series. Magnificent is the word for this holly of marvelous beauty and form. A specimen in full berry has been aptly described as a "cloud of scarlet against the sky."

## B. Hollies with leaves decorated in gold and silver.

Before listing the exciting hollies illuminated with silver and gold, it seems timely here to acquaint the reader with the origins and nature of these fanciful variants from the norm of the species. Since a better appreciation of the variegated hollies requires an understanding of the terms mutation and sport, it will be of interest to neophytes, like myself, to the science of botany to learn that vegetative growth can spontaneously mutate or change itself over from its apparently fixed habit to an entirely new form. Such phenomena are referred to as sports and they exhibit themselves in two principal ways as either seed sports or bud sports.

Illustrations of holly seed sports are those bearing yellow or orange fruit, the green weeping hollies, those with over-all golden leaves and many of the smooth leaf types. Bud sports occur when a terminal bud swells to bursting at the spring season and willy-nilly as if from nowhere at all there emerges a pixilated branchlet garbed with color or form out of this world. Thus through beneficent Nature's creative handiwork our gardens have been blessed with a dazzling display of gorgeous hollies arrayed in silver and gold.

By intent observation of the growth behavior of our hollies we are ever making exciting "finds" and thanks to our knowledge of vegetative reproduction we can capture these new discoveries and "bring them home alive." Then by a multiplication process of propagation fully as mysterious as alchemy itself we are enabled to expand each of our wild mutants into a thousand replicas to be shared by others who seek the beautiful and unusual among the hollies.

To introduce, with proper respect for historical precedent, the regal hollies with leaves so colorfully variegated by bands of silver and gold encircling their handsome green centers, presents a dilemma in protocol. Heretofore, when confronted by confusing problems of title and rank we have willingly accepted the dictates of England's renowned botanical experts and their long established nurserymen. But after wrestling for years with English in reverse, I have chosen my course and do now renounce the foreign historical custom of choosing the loveliest of their

*On a glorious  
December day  
daughter Gloria  
trims the  
colorful branches  
of berried holly*



*Each year at the approach of the Christmas season the Brownell Farms team up with Santa Claus to send thousands of gay packages and wreaths of freshly cut holly across the miles to friendly folk in every State. . . The growing of English Holly in large acreages of well kept commercial groves has become one of the Pacific Northwest's newest and most interesting agricultural enterprises. For happier Holly Days remember Brownell of Oregon is Where Your Christmas Holly Grows.*







Silver Weeping

This massive bush produces a breath-taking color scheme of crimson berry clusters nestling among enameled leaves of silver and green.



Silvery with Rederly  
Perfection in a  
Holly arrangement.

lady hollies to be kings, and demoting their stalwart males to queenhood.

Perhaps in England where one drives in the left lane such quirks of inverse nomenclature may seem trivial, but to persist in the borrowed habit of left lane driving in American traffic seems to be something less than futile. Therefore with this warning, and forever hereafter, our Silver and Golden Kings shall indeed be Kings, whilst their respective Queens shall be honored as the fairest in the realm of all the mother hollies.

## THE GOLDEN HOLLIES

We shall first undertake to acquaint you with the golden (*aurea*) hollies, and secondly with those decorated with silver (*argentea*). Most of these colorful mutants appear as bud sports and fall into two general classifications: one where the leaf margins are banded with color (*marginata*) and the other where the central (*medio*) portions of the leaves are painted (*picta*) in silver or gold. Thus are derived the botanical titles of *Aurea* and *Argentea Medio-picta*. The first of these hollies, the *marginates*, are the more fixed or constant and seldom do they revert to the form of their parent. The *medio-pictas* where the coloration is confined to the leaf centers are more fickle and frequently send forth branches corresponding to those of the holly of their origin.

### 1. Varieties with golden variegated margins (*aurea marginata*).

**AUREA MARGINATA OVATA**, *F*—  
See Golden Gate below.

**AUREA REGINA**, *M*—See Golden King below.

**BICOLOR**, *F*—Also *Muricata*. Also see *Mistigold*, *M* below. Much of the joy which this holly brings is due to its persistent annual and heavy fruiting of rich carmine red berries and ripening in early September. Leaves are slender, only slightly spined and are banded with a delicate line of deep greenish gold coloration.

is lord and king of the golden *marginates*. Leaves broadly banded with polished gold are wavy and waxed and well armored with spiny authority. The mate to this regal holly is a commoner which we have chosen to name *Varigold*, but a damozel of high breeding and unmatched personal charm.

➤ **GOLDEN GATE**, *F*—(Brownell). Also *Aurea Marginata Ovata*. A handsome holly with broadly rounded leaves slightly valled but gently spined and outlined by a well-defined golden marginal stripe. Purple bark coloration is pronounced. A reliable fruiting holly and much prized for landscaping because of its dense compact growth habit.

➤ **GOLDEN QUEEN**, *F*—(Brownell) England's Golden King. One of the most beautiful and truly regal of the hollies. Leaves are large, glossy, rather convex and are edged with a generous broad band of bright yellow gold. Many leaves are pure gold in color. The foliage is dense and nearly free of spines. When filled with ruby fruit this majestic holly commands both respect and admiration.

➤ **GOLDEN KING**, *M*—(Brownell) England's *Aurea Regina*. Abounding in golden coloration this happy warrior

➤ **MISTIGOLD**, *M*—(Brownell) also *Laurifolia Aurea*. The male counterpart of *Bicolor* above with almost identical leaf shape except for an impish twist to each sharp tip spine. A brighter golden color encircling the leaves makes *Mistigold* an ornate attraction indeed.



*I. A. Aurea Marginata*

GOLDEN QUEEN

> MURICATA, *F*—See Bicolor above.

> PATH-O-GOLD, *F*—(Brownell) *Pyramidalis Aurea*. A strikingly beautiful holly with long, slender leaves sharply pointed, and nearly flat with occasional spines emerging within the leaf plane. Each leaf is broadly outlined in brightest gold, and best of all this is one of the most winter resistant of the variegated hollies. Were we to mark our favorites, Path-O-Gold would be well starred.

PYRAMIDALIS AUREA, *F*—(See Path-O-Gold above).

> SCOTCH GOLD, *F*—The best of our English imports for a golden margined holly with broad leaves patterned in strong uniform variegation. A choice collector's item and most attractive.

> VARIGOLD, *F*—(Brownell). Our choice of all the fine golden marginate hollies of traditional English type to come to our attention. Leaves are waved, spined and strongly edged with bold golden coloration. A dependable fruiting holly of great beauty and intrinsic value. In leaf form and appearance Varigold is the feminine counterpart of Golden King (see above).

## 2. Varieties with leaf centers painted in gold (*aurea medio-picta*).

> GOLDEN BUTTERFLY, *F*—(Brownell). A most cheerful little pixie with slender pointed leaves so gaily splashed with gold. Fruits freely and is a favorite member of this colorful tribe.

GOLDEN CRISPA AND FEROX (*Tortuosa* and *Porcupine*) see page 26.

> GOLDEN MILKBOY, *M*—(Brownell). An amazing young blade with a flair for flashy clothing. Leaves as large as the palm of your hand are boldly filled almost to the edge with purest gold. This dashing character is of local origin and quite beyond compare.

> GOLDEN MILKMAID, *F*—(Brownell). Graceful, tall and lovely describes this admirable beauty whose mellow gold is mingled so artistically with the green of her enameled leaves. Great clusters of early reddening berries adorn our heroine to assure that none shall pass her way without an adoring gaze.

HARLEQUIN, *F*—(Brownell). A dense and shrubby growing form with exquisite golden coloration spread within the rich green banding of its waved and



*I. A. Aurea Medico-picta*  
GOLDEN MILKMAID

spiny leaves. One of our first loves in this surprising group, and one of the choicest.

HENDERSONII AUREA, see page 19.

MADERENSIS VARIEGATA, see page 18.

➤ PAINTED LADY, *F*—(Brownell). For you who thought there just couldn't or shouldn't be any more sisters in this populous family, there had to be a

naughty little girl who stole her mother's lipstick and daubed her golden complexion with splotches of red and purple. She performs this trick every fall, but when spring comes the discolorations just fade away and our Painted Lady becomes a true beauty queen reigning over all she surveys throughout the warm summer days. Crimson berries in profusion aid this damsel in accomplishing her winter overtones of color.

3. Variegated hollies sheathed with leaves of solid gold (see picture on back cover). FLAVESCENS: (Aurantiaca; Lutescens).

These ethereal hollies of near identical description and behavior appear to originate as seed sports. The coloration is imparted to the new and outer leaves by the golden rays of the sunlight. But the sun like the proverbial Indian giver merely lends her gold which must be repaid whenever the leaves fail to make obeisance to the sun god. Thus as the leaves become old and shaded within the body of the tree they first become mottled with green, then fade out to a pale green. If the tree is shaded all the gold will be lost. Even those leaves on the northern exposure must plead for their fair share of gold while the leaves on the side of the sun glow ever so brightly with their borrowed riches.

On moonlight nights these hollies serve as phantasmal beacons illuminating the landscape with the pale yellow glow of reflected moonbeams. Tall, symmetrically conical and with vigorous growth habit these sensational gold-plated fantasies of nature seem to be designed to grace the Gardens of the Gods.

✓  
BRONZE AND CLOUDED GOLD, *F*—Both imports of near identical leaf, bold, strongly spined and perfection personified.

➤ MOONLIGHT, *F*—A gentler holly of broader, softer leaf and enhanced by great clusters of crimson berries at the Christmas season.

➤ PHANTOM GOLD, *M*—(Brownell). The chosen mate for Moonlight, this magnificent holly is pictured in full color on the back cover.

4. Varieties with Silver Variegated Margins (*Argentea Marginata*).

First a note to clarify the use of the descriptive term of silver. The degree of silver coloration is affected by the age of the leaf, the exposure to sunlight, and by inheritance factors. The latin word alba meaning white is sometimes used in describing these silvery colorations. The deeper the shade in which the tree or branch is growing, the more white-like becomes the variegation. The same holly placed in full exposure to the sun will take on a deeper coloration which may be called creamy and may merge on the golden, especially at the outer and newer leaves. Silver is thus a compromise adjective to express an inter-

mediate and possibly changing coloration between white and a creamy cast or even a temporary golden tinge.

ARGENTEA ERECTA, *F*—(See Silver Charm, opposite).



*I. A. Argentea Marginata*  
SILVARY

ARGENTEA PENDULA, *F*—(See Silver Weeping, below).

ARGENTEA REGINA—(See Silver King below).

ELEGANTISSIMA, *M*—(See Silver Prince, below).

HANDSWORTH NEW SILVER, *F*—(See Silver Plane, below).

HANDSWORTH SILVER, *M*—(See Silverboy, below).

SILVARY, *F*—(Brownell). See page 11.

> SILVERBOY, *M*—(Brownell). Also Handsworth Silver. A handsome English gentleman of purple twig and featured by well ordered leaf and prominent spines to serve as side arms to this upright and formal individual with an air of the military about him.

> SILVER BROADLEAF, *F*—An English import appearing to be identical to Silvary described on page 11.

SILVER CHARM, *F*—(Brownell). Also Argentea Marginata Erecta. A vigorous erect growing holly with long, slender leaves strongly banded with silver and armed with prominent white spines. Leaves are quite like those of Silver Prince but with more waviness. Silver Charm is one of those cheerful hollies that love to go out of their way to please by always appearing at their best.

SILVER FEROX (Porcupine, etc.). See pages 26-27.

SILVER KING, *M*—(Brownell) England's Argentea Regina. By all odds the most outstanding and charming chap of all. This royally attired party is distinguished by a dense foliage of broad rounded leaves generously banded with brightest silver. Born to the purple as evidenced by color of twig, Silver King is truly a King among Kings.

> SILVER PLANE, *F*—(Brownell) Handsworth New Silver. A most re-



*I. A. Argentea Marginata*  
SILVER PLANE  
Handsworth New Silver



*I. A. Argentea Marginata Pendula*  
SILVER WEeping

markable holly of unusual interest and beauty. Her strong but slender leaves are richly edged with silver. They are

almost perfectly flat and completely armed with regularly spaced spines, long and sharp and lying within the leaf plane. A stout growing holly of purple twig and brownish bark, Silver Plane adds even more to her colorful make-up when autumnal frosts tinge her berries with crimson.

> SILVER PRINCE, *M*—(Brownell) Elegantissima. An exquisite gentleman holly of elegant habit. Silver Prince is the precise male counterpart to our feminine Silvary (page 11). Traditional and correct, of course.

> SILVER PRINCESS and SILVER QUEEN, *F*—(Brownell). Names often used synonymously with Silvary (page 11) and especially when sold as living gifts at the Christmas season.

> SILVER WEEPING, *F*—(Argentea Marginata Pendula). See center pages for color reproduction. The piece-de-resistance about which all our other hollies revolve. This massive holly produces a breath-taking color scheme of crimson berry clusters nestling among enameled leaves of silver and green, and all borne on gracefully arched branches overlaid one upon the other to form an almost perfect hemisphere of radiant beauty.

## 5. Varieties with Leaf Centers Painted in Silver (*Argentea Medio-picta*)

> SILVER MILKBOY, *M*—(Brownell).

> SILVER MILKMAID, *F*—(Brownell). A pair of unusual hollies so identical in leaf and stem and growth habit, and all except gender, that to describe one will suffice for both. These curious hollies are quite unlike the gentle golden picta types, being small of leaf but so divaricate with spines pointing in every direction that each seems to be out-doing the other in achieving contortion.

White enameled leaf centers illumine

these fanciful hollies, while the crimson fruit of Miss Silver Milkmaid provides a festive touch withal.

> SILVER STAR, *F*—(Brownell). A new and exciting acquisition to our Ilex-tum. Originating locally as a bud sport, Silver Star is large and bold of leaf, and armored against any imprudent advance. Words, usually so adequate, fail me as I seek to convey some conception of the acrobatic contortions of this strangely beautiful Silver Star.

## C. Unusual and Curious Hollies.

When mother Nature turns herself loose with abandon, her miracles to perform, we are permitted to perceive the ultimate in bizarre and unusual coloration as well as the grotesque in form. The hollies have long yielded to her whimsey and caprice.

> CALAMISTRATA, *M*—(Sterile). See > CONTORTA, *M*—(sterile). See Crispa below.





*I. A. Crispa Aurea*  
GOLDEN SCREWLEAF

CRISPA, *M*—(sterile) with coarse leaves of solid green.

CRISPA AUREA, *M*—(sterile) with leaves centrally splashed with gold.

Also known under the various commonplace as well as dramatic names of Screw leaf, Contorta, Tortuosa and Calamistrata or Calamity Holly. These odd numbers are featured by a contorted spiralled leaf usually tipped with a single fierce spine. Sterile drones of the holly family, like their first cousins, *Ferox*, below, they appear to be perfect male forms, blooming profusely but producing no viable pollen, thank heavens, to enable them to father any more monstrosities. But even ugliness can be fascinating and for pure conversational value alone these sterile males actually steal the show.

ECHINATA, *M*—(sterile). See *Ferox*, below.

FEROX, *M*—(sterile). Also *Echinata*, with fiercest leaves of solid green.

FEROX ARGENTEA, *M*—(sterile) with leaves edged in silver.

FEROX AUREA, *M*—(sterile) with leaves centrally illumined with gold.

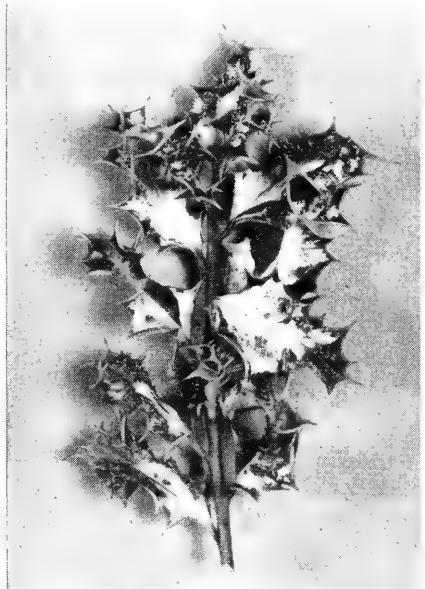
Cousins and sometimes sporting from *Crispa* (opp.), this ferociously spined holly is variously known as Porcupine (Brownell) and Hedgehog. The above trio have outdone *Crispa* by arming themselves with the wickedest of fierce spines protruding not merely from the margins but from the upper surfaces of their convex and twisted leaves.

Many conflicting theories have been advanced as to the origin of these weird but entrancing hollies. It is my observation that the green forms of both *Crispa* and *Ferox* sport directly from common English Holly of the female gender, and we have numerous Green Porcupines sporting directly back or reverting to the normal leaves of the species *Aquifolium*.

> GREEN SHADOW, *F*—(Brownell). A sprightly holly marked with two shades of green. Leaves of normal type and glossy are centered with light green enclosed by a strong marginal band of deepest green coloration. See *Misty Green* below for reverse effect.

HEDGEHOG, *M*—(sterile). See *Ferox* above.

> INGRAMII, *M*—(See Polkadot).



(*I. A. Ferox Aurea*)  
Golden Variegated Hedgehog  
PORCUPINE





*I. A. Ferox Argentea Marginata*  
Silver Variegated Hedgehog  
**PORCUPINE**

**MONSTROSA, M**—(Latispina Major). A strange character right out of the fiction books. This bold and diabolical villain, hiding some dark past, has developed the art of self defense and attack with huge broadly based spines and mostly standing erect from the leaf margins, but with tip spine pointed downward to serve as tail gunner for the unwary of approach.

**POLKADOT, M**—(Brownell) Also Ingramii. Really one of the smaller leaved hollies, but oh, so different. New leaves of white emerge overlaid with raised spots of green enamel as though applied by an artist painter of fine china. Melting gradually as the leaves mature the green polkadots finally spread out to cover the entire surface except for a thinly held marginal line of silver.

**PORCUPINE, M**—(sterile). See Ferox, above.

**SCREW LEAF, M**—(sterile). See Crispa, above.

**TORTUOSA, M**—(sterile). See Crispa, above.

**WHITE LEAFED HOLLY.** Frequently from the variegated forms we find growing albino branches of pure silver or golden leaves. Sometimes a speck of minute green appears in the leaf centers. They cannot be propagated as the leaves lack the chlorophyll so essential for synthesis of plant food and self support. Sterile berries have been observed to appear on these wraith-like limbs.

> **LATISPINA MAJOR, M**—(See Monstrosa).

> **MISTY GREEN, F**—(Brownell). A retiring holly with leaves in two tones of green, the centers in dark green are edged with a broad marginal band of palest green shade. See Green Shadow above for similar effect in reverse.

Trusting to have observed the proper amenities in presenting our readers before the royal members and entourage of the Court of the English Hollies we conclude for the nonce the saga of the *Ilex Aquifoliums*.

\* \* \* \* \*

### III. Oriental Hollies.

The following species names are preceded by *Ilex*, while varietal forms are indicated by the term Var. The species occur in both male (staminate) and female (pistillate) forms.

**ILEX CILIOSPINOSA**, China. (Also *Centrochinensis*). A strong growing upright holly clothed with deep green flat and pointed leaves of medium size and gently armed with small forward tilting spines. Red berries appearing

on the fruiting gender are well distributed.

**ILEX CORNUTA**, China. One of the hollies which, when once met, is never to be forgotten. *Cornuta* taken from



ILEX CORNUTA

the Latin literally means horns, and from the upper corners of the unusual rectangular leaves emerge two prominent spines to give this shrub the name of "horned holly." The leaf surface is exceptionally glossy and convex except at the rampant horns which causes the tip spine to be depressed downward and out of sight. Though somewhat sparse in fruiting habit, the berries of the Cornuta are exceptionally large, round, and of bright red color borne on nearly inch long stems.

*Var. BURFORD, F*—A choice varietal form of Cornuta minus the horns. In other words, a nearly smooth oval leaved type with but a blunted tip and with convexly curved deeply veined leaves of highest polish. Growth is shrubby, rather pendulous and Burford can be depended upon to fill in and adapt itself admirably to a host of landscaping possibilities. A curious feature of these feminine members of this Cornuta variety is their ability to produce a profusion of fine red fruits in great long stemmed clusters and without benefit of pollination. It is one of the few hollies which is unconcerned about the fertility of her berries. Furthermore, the fruits are exceptionally persistent so that we often have two sets of berries on the same shrub, the old

and the new, the one red, the other green or turning to orange.

*Var. ROTUNDA.* A Cornuta featured by a very long and horned leaf equipped with several depressed lateral spines and called Rotunda because of its dwarfish growth habit which shapes this shrub into a low hemispherical dome, intensely dense and compact. No fruits have been observed as yet on this variety.



ILEX CORNUTA BURFORD

*ILEX CRENATA*, Japan. Probably the most abundant and widely distributed of all the Oriental hollies. It can be used successfully wherever the slower growing boxwoods are in order. Many seedling variations of this hardy species have been observed and numerous of them selected in turn for naming and propagation as garden varieties. One Crenata has been patented to provide for the legal licensing of commercial growers who choose to propagate and offer this variety for sale by name.

As has been indicated, the leaves of Crenata like those of box are small and mostly spineless or at best but microscopically armed. Few of the uninitiated recognize the delightful, compact and shrubby Crenatas as members of the holly family. They are even more

surprised when they find that the berries of these hollies are black in color and rather resemble huckleberries. Gardeners often trim the *Crenatas* into formal hedges and of course they are the joy of the topiarist who loves to carve animals, balls, and cubes and such from his submissive shrubbery. Left to grow freely, the *Crenatas* will assume most pleasing natural forms.

*Var. CONVEXA* (Bullata). The tiny oval compact and convex leaves of *Convexa* sparkle like polished gems of, I was going to say jade, but some shining stone of darker green is needed for comparison. This is the favorite of landscape architects and gardeners alike.

*Var. HELLERI*. Here we come to a most charming and interesting type, low, very compact, and with branches closely knit. Ideal for rock gardening use and where one cannot use a shrub which tends to grow out of hand. Dwarf in habit, rather hemispherical, round and flattened in shape, this little holly will tend strictly to its own business and never get in anybody's hair.

➤ *Var. MARIESII*. The pygmy of the hollies, this tiny dwarf does well to make a quarter inch of annual growth. Its crowded Lilliputian and rounded, slightly concave, leaves of a bare eighth inch diameter form such a dense foliage as to render the interior impenetrable to eye or touch. Cute, but, oh so rare and difficult to propagate.

*Var. MICROPHYLLA*. A dainty *Crenata* with tiny pointed leaves of bright green, free growing and graceful.

Other varieties of *Ilex Crenata* at our Ilexetum include the broad leafed *Latifolia*; *Longifolia*, with longer and narrower leaves; *Rotundifolia*, with roundish leaves; and several more in addition.

**ILEX INTEGRATA.** (*Othra Japonica*). Also known as *Ilex Integrifolia*, but not to be confused with *Ilex Aquifolium Integrifolia*. Dense, dark green foliage of oval spineless but glossy leaves. Named *Integra*, meaning entire, because leaf margins are complete and smooth without being serrated or spined.

**ILEX LATIFOLIA**, Japan. Perhaps the largest leafed of the hollies, with some measuring six to eight inches, tapered at both ends and gently but evenly spined. Large crimson and per-

sistent berries adorn the fruiting gender. Holly lovers will find *Latifolia* most outstanding, in fact commanding of attention, as well as being strikingly beautiful.



ILEX LATIFOLIA

**ILEX PEDUNCULOSA**, China. A fascinating holly named for the unusually long stems to which the berries are attached and which hang from the branches like clusters of cherries. Leaves are smooth, resembling somewhat those of the lilac, and they, too, hang downward to give a drooping aspect to this interestingly different holly.

**ILEX PERNYI**, China. Named for a courageous French missionary, Paul PERNY, who found this holly in the province of Kiuchu about 1850. One of the most eye-catching of the hollies. Before learning its true name, we used to call it the fern holly because of its graceful drooping branches closely overlaid with square based, little and spiny, but sharp pointed rather triangular leaves. The unusual aspect of the PERNYI hollies is the absence of leaf and berry stems, causing both fruit and foliage to grow out directly from the branches. Thus this holly is described as being "sessile" or sitting, meaning that leaves and fruit sit upon their branches without benefit of stems, the very opposite of *Pedunculosa*, the long stemmed holly just previously described.

*Var. AQUIPERN*. See Section V, Hybrid Hollies, for description.

*Var. VEITCHII*. *M* and *F*—Undoubtedly one of the loveliest and choicest of the Oriental hollies. This variety, also



ILEX PERNYI VEITCHII, *M*

sessile, with large glossy sharply pointed leaves and big rounded bright red berries was selected by the Veitch Nursery in England from thousands of Pernyi seedlings, and is identified by their name much to their lasting credit. The charming growth habit of this holly is

erect and quite symmetrically pyramidal. It is truly a must holly in any well rounded collection.

ILEX SERRATA, Japan, *Var.* SIEBOLDII. One of the always interesting deciduous hollies, but our first of Oriental origin. Serrata is noted not alone for its complement of tiny bright red fruits so conspicuous in the winter months, but for the sharp patterns produced by the pronounced veining of its symmetrical little leaves each margined with miniscule teeth. A pleasing shrub on the order of our native American *Verticillata*, though smaller in detail.

ILEX SIKKIMENSIS, India. A stout growing holly heavy stalked with unusually long narrow waved and serrated green leaves of leathery surface. See section V. for description of hybrid produced from a cross of *Sikkimensis* with *Ilex Wilsonii*.

ILEX YUNNANENSIS, China. Tiny of leaf, like the *Crenatas*, this neat and cheerful shrub is exceptionally hardy and should prove of great interest both to landscapers and collectors alike. An interesting color contrast takes place when the young leaflets of *Yunnanensis* emerge with their brilliant reddish brown color so utterly different from the dark green tones of the older leaves.

#### IV. American Hollies from the Northern Continent.

Names of the species are preceded by *Ilex* while the varietal forms are so indicated.

ILEX CASSINE (Dahoon). An evergreen shrub with small, red fruits appearing in thick clusters. Long, narrow and tough flat leaves, pointed at each end, mark this interesting holly from the southern swamps.

ILEX GLABRA (Gallberry or Inkberry). As the names would suggest, this native East shore and Southern holly bears a black fruit tasting bitter as gall. Leaves are small, smooth and leathery. *Glabra* spreads readily when once planted by sending up new shoots from its ever widening root system.

ILEX MONTICOLA, Also *MONTANA* and known by many growers as *Mountain Holly*, this deciduous shrub produces a berry of bright orange-red

hue. Leaves are sharply toothed, broad at the base and taper to a long point.

ILEX OPACA. The best known and beloved of the native American hollies. This evergreen species is indigenous to the Atlantic Coast and is found in the wild state in an area extending from Cape Cod to Florida, and inland through the Southern States to Texas. Many named varieties have made their appearance, especially during recent years and owing largely to the stimulus being given to the knowledge and culture of the hollies by the Holly Society of America. At Rutgers University under the direction of Doctors Charles C. Connors and Robert B. Clark a holly testing station has been estab-



ILEX OPACA

lished where new varieties in all species, especially Opaca, are welcomed for trial.

The attention being accorded the improvement of the hardy Opacas through varietal selection and better cultural methods is being reflected in their growing popularity for landscaping not alone in the home gardens but in public park systems and along our super highways. Some of the handsomer varieties are even receiving consideration from growers for the commercial production of berried spray holly for the Christmas trade.

*Var. GOLDEN FLEECE, F—(Brownell).* Named by the author in 1948 following an argosy in search of rare native hollies in company with an expert guide, Dr. William Frierson of South Carolina. This startling gold sheathed holly located in the foothills of the Great Smokies proved to be a parallel to the well-known *Ilex Flavescens* of the English *Aquifolium*, one of which, Phantom Gold, is pictured in color on the back cover. In addition to the large and feminine specimen which was the object of our quest and from which cuttingwood was taken, a smaller seedling was found growing in a near-by wooded area which now graces our *Ilexetum*. The Golden Fleece is an exceedingly tender tree, and with leaves

so susceptible to sunburn that it must be most carefully handled in partial shade, especially when young.

*Var. HOWARD (Hume).* This selection is mentioned because it is a variety chosen some years ago for one of the first large commercial plantings of native American holly, and which is located in the State of Georgia. Though a heavy fruiting type and thickly foliaged with smooth slender dark green leaves so typical of the Southern hollies, it does not appear to hold too much promise as a market variety when offered in competition with the more traditional and preferred hollies of waved and spiny leaves.

*Var. OLD HEAVYBERRY (Dilatash).* Also said to be sold under the name of Hookstra. Many years back when every available named Opaca was purchased from several well known Eastern and Southern nurseries specializing in holly, this Old Heavyberry stood out head and shoulders above the rest in the eyes of one long trained to evaluate the English hollies. It just seemed to have the vigor, substance and boldness, and color and berry to render it a permanently useful and beautiful holly. It is readily distinguishable from all other Opacas, and if not the best in the judgement of everyone else, it is still "tops" with me.

*Var. XANTHOCARPA (Yellow Berry).* Here we go reeling off into the Greek again: Xantho meaning yellow and Carpa being the word for fruit. It is the equivalent of *Fructu-luteo*, the latin designation given to the yellow berried English hollies. These odd but beautiful variants occur ever so seldom as natural seedling sports, and then apparently, only when the residual but generally recessive yellow characteristic suddenly attains the whip-hand potential over the usually ruling genetic dominant of red coloration.

Space will permit no more than the listing of several other named Opacas growing at our *Ilexetum*: Arden, Bountiful, Cape Cod, Cardinal, Croonenberg, Cup Leaf, East Palatka, Hume's selections, Judge Brown, Lake City, Merry Christmas, Old Leatherleaf (a male form) and sprightly Sprig, as well as others.

*ILEX VERTICILLATA (Black Alder, Winterberry).* By all odds the showiest and most ornamental of the native

deciduous hollies. The rather opprobrious common name of Black Alder was derived from the brief dark discoloration of the leaves which takes place annually just before they fall away in the autumn season. The maiden *Verticillatas* really deserve a more glamorous title even than "Winterberry," for they employ the intriguing habit of the strip tease artist by shedding their foliage and baring their branches the better to display their slender limbs literally encrusted with treasured jewels of tiny but brilliant berries of a seemingly translucent ruby color.

**ILEX VOMITORIA** (Yaupon, also Cassena). A rigid upright growing evergreen with small remotely spined leaves seldom more than an inch in length.

The abundant scarlet berries are exceedingly tiny like those of *Angustifolia* described among the English hollies. This holly is often sheared into tall green columns for formal garden decoration.

But the most interesting feature of *Vomitoria* is perhaps its name which is used to describe the emetic effect produced by a tea or infusion made by boiling its leaves in water. It is also one of the five known hollies to contain the principle of caffeine within its leaves. A fascinating story of the use of this shrub in early Indian ceremonials in Florida about the year 1564 will be found in the masterful book of the "Hollies" written by Dr. H. Harold Hume and published in 1953 by The Macmillan Company.

## V. Hybrid Hollies.

The list of hybrid hollies is abbreviated from necessity rather than choice. There appears to be a great wide world open here for research and study of the potentialities of cross-breeding not only within species but especially between species of *Ilex*. Chromosome barriers undoubtedly exist to render futile many to-be-attempted crosses. On the other hand there is strong possibility that the species can be grouped into classes of like chromosome count to pave the way for successful trials in the future. Perhaps this is as good a time as any to mention the as yet unexplored field for inducing artificial mutation by the employment of the chemical colchine on living cell tissue, and also the exposure of viable seed to emanations of radioactive isotopes in an effort to multiply or disturb the factors controlling the normal genetic behavior of holly seedlings.

But two named hybrids are currently available in the trade, and are accepted in fact by some if not by all of our authorities on the hollies.

**ILEX AQUIPERN** (*Ilex Aquifolium* x *Ilex Pernyi*). Certainly the leaves of this holly resemble those of English holly and being normally equipped with stems they do not sit directly on the branches as is the manner of the Chinese parent of this hybrid. However, the growth habit is strictly that of *Pernyi*. Some observers feel that *Aquipern* may be another garden variety of *Pernyi*. It is not known by the author if this hybrid is the result of happenstance, or if

*Aquipern* can be produced at will, a sure test of validity.

**ILEX SIKKIMENSIS x ILEX WILSONII**. Offered under the unassuming name of *San Jose Hybrid*, this bold leafed holly certainly possesses the aspects of both parents in about equal proportions. In other words, it is half-way in almost every respect between *Sikkimensis* and *Wilsonii* previously described on pages 20 and 30.

# *Pathways...among the Hollies*

“He who plants trees loves others besides himself.”—Scotch proverb.

Which reminds me of a story surrounding an old time custom of planting a tree upon the birth of a daughter to provide the wood for the making of her hope chest. While the hollies would scarcely be chosen for such a thoughtful endowment, yet one can hardly think of another tree which has so endeared itself in the homes as well as in the hearts of people everywhere. Associated for centuries with the celebration of a joyous event the Christmas holly is ever the cheerful messenger bearing tidings of happiness and good will.

“O, Reader, hast thou ever stood to see the Holly Tree

And should my youth, as youth is apt, I know,

Some harshness show,

All vain asperities I day by day

Would wear away.

Till the smooth temper of my age should be

Like the high leaves upon the holly tree.

“And as when all the summer trees are seen

So bright and green,

The holly leaves a sober hue display

Less bright than they;

But when the bare and wintry woods we see,

What then so cheerful as the holly tree?”

\* \* \* \* \*

—SOUTHEY

Have you ever heard that hollies are not really trees, but rather shrubs? Some species such as the English hollies and our native Opacas grow in the form of trees and are known by those in the know as arborescent, or tree-like shrubs. Being shrubs they lend themselves to pruning and shearing without the slightest protest. Never need you hesitate to clip or shape your hollies to your will. Any month is safe for it's always open season for giving them a beauty treatment.

And speaking of shrubs and having had to bring so much of the Latin into the naming of the hollies, let's take on another interesting descriptive term, that of semper virens meaning ever-living to describe the amazing life span of the hollies. Many European hollies living today have recorded histories running back for centuries of time. So when you plant a holly you can truly consider that it will become a living heritage of beauty for your children's children.

While on the subject of longevity, one of the reasons for the sturdiness of the hollies is their apparent immunity to disease. True enough the hollies will sometimes become host to some pesky parasites, but all of these succumb readily to well known, economical, and easily applied chemical spray control.



## *Hedges of Holly*

Hedges of Holly are most amazing, growing more beautiful and useful with the years, and requiring so little effort to maintain. For fencing or screening, close cropped or free growing, holly hedges are often the perfect answer. And did you ever think of hollies serving as barriers to highway noise, absorbing unwanted sound waves with uncanny acoustical perfection.

Speaking of hedges, let me tell you about the famous hedge in Evelyn's garden in Deptford, England. Four hundred feet in length, and nine feet in height by five feet in width, it is reliably reported to have suffered some damage when the house was rented to Peter the Great of Russia who amused himself by driving furiously along the top of the hedge mounted on a wheelbarrow.

### *The Hollies in the Winter Time*

The hardiness of the hollies is of especial interest to those who live in colder climes where there's a question of survival. Since our specialty is the culture of the English hollies, the discussion will be limited to them. Fortunately the hollies are proving to be hardier than anyone dreamed of their being only a few years ago. Two circumstances have contributed much to our knowledge of the behavior of the hollies in extreme cold temperatures.

First, here in our almost always ideal Oregon climate we were visited in the late winter of 1950 with the coldest temperatures on record with readings of 10 to 20 below zero and only a few inches of icy snow cover. The cold spell continued for six long dreary weeks with the thermometers remaining below the freezing point day after day. Much to our surprise and heartfelt relief, our hollies heavily draped with icicles came through with flying colors and were thus proven by test to be resistant to sub-zero weather.

Second, we have from time to time, and rather reluctantly at first, succumbed to the pressure of persistent holly enthusiasts who were determined to see what would happen to their hollies when planted in mile high Denver, or in southern New Hampshire, western Pennsylvania, northern Ohio, and at last in nearly every state in America.

Here are some conclusions from actual reported experiences which may help you in your decision to plant hollies to your heart's desire.

In general the green leafed hollies are hardier than the variegated when exposed to zero weather conditions. Hollies are safest from harm in the late weeks of winter by which time they will have achieved a maximum state of dormancy. The most critical season is when early December storms catch the hollies unawares and while still making growth.

The most sensitive years are when the hollies are first planted, and it is then that they need maximum winter protection. The longer a holly remains planted in its new environment the better acclimated it will become. Should there be a partial die-back from freezing, the hardy hollies will stage a quick recovery at the first kiss of spring, and shoot up with strong new growth from the roots.

Much winter damage results from dehydration of the holly due to the freezing of the soil about the feeder roots preventing the normal needed flow of moisture through the living cell tissues. This danger can be minimized by extra heavy mulching in November to keep the frost level from reaching deeply into the earth. A second cause of winter die-back is due to the freezing of the moisture

content of the plant itself. This danger is often met by wrapping the hollies with burlap and straw. Another successful scheme is to encircle the holly with poultry netting lined with burlap and filled to the top of the tree and higher with leaves.

It is only in the coldest of states that measures such as these must be taken to protect the hollies. They are growing freely all along the Atlantic Coast states from Boston to Florida, west through the States of Indiana, Southern Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, eastern Kansas, and south through Oklahoma and Texas. The western states of New Mexico, Arizona, parts of Utah, Colorado and Idaho offer fine possibilities for growing the hollies, and they thrive all along the Pacific Coast from Southern California to British Columbia.

In the colder states of Maine, Michigan, Wisconsin, the Dakotas, Montana and Wyoming the hollies can best be enjoyed by keeping them growing in pots or in tubs and taken indoors for winter protection. Some of our customers are doing this and write that nothing gives them more pleasure than having a living holly to cheer them through the bleak winter months.

For those who cautiously write asking if we can guarantee our hollies to live for them, we must sadly reply that too many factors govern one's success with living plants and trees for us to make unwarranted promises. We can tell you that a green thumb will prove to be of great help, and two green thumbs will practically put you over the top with your hollies regardless of obstacles.

### *“Dioecious” is the word with Hollies*

So much confusion exists about the whole subject of whence cometh the holly berries that I've tried to give a good picture of the fundamentals on pages 36-37. But there is still more to the story, and first of all there's another word descriptive of the hollies I'd like to introduce to you. It is *dioecious* which when freely translated means that the sexes live in separate households. This is the reason why we must have two hollies, one of each sex, to assure production of berries which are really the seed pods by which the hollies reproduce themselves in the natural manner.

Here are some facts to help you know your hollies better: Male and female hollies must be of the same species to be assured of berries. A male Opaca will not fertilize the blossoms of our English holly or vice versa. The male hollies bloom and produce pollen for fertilization but they do not themselves produce berries.

Certain few hollies such as Ilex Cornuta and especially var. Burford will produce berries freely without benefit of male pollen. Such fruit is called parthenocarpic meaning sterile and cannot be germinated. Certain other hollies, especially the English green leafed varieties may produce a few sterile fruits, smaller than the fertile berries and slower to color, but never in profusion even though artificially induced by hormone treatment of the pistillate flowers.

There is no such thing, all optimistic advertising to the contrary, as Bisex holly or Ilex Fertilis where male and female blooms are said to be so intermingled on the same branches as to be self pollinating and productive of fertile fruit. The only way to obtain a true bisexual holly is to implant by budding or grafting a male upon a female or vice versa. This procedure has not proven to be entirely satisfactory in nursery practice.

If planting space is too limited to provide separate locations for two hollies, the male and female trees are best tied together and planted as one to insure a lifetime supply of berries. The male can then be kept from becoming dominant

*Confucius Say . . . "One Picture*

*Worth Ten Thousand Words"*



## Pistillate *Female* Blossoms of the English Hollies



They are conspicuous for the bulbous central organ called the pistil or ovary, and which when fertilized by pollen from the male blooms will expand and ripen into the familiar red berry of the holly. The four anther tipped stamens extending recumbent between the pistil and the flower petals are nonfunctional relics of disuse. Note the honeyed surface sparkling with reflected light at the top of each infertile ovary and known as the stigma. It is this ovarian exudation of fragrant nectar which proves so attractive to the bees that they most obligingly, though unconsciously, transfer the fertilizing pollen from the male to the female flowers of the hollies in their industrious quest for sweets.



## Staminate *Male* Blossoms of the English Hollies

Conspicuous for their pollen-tipped stamens standing erect as though guarding the nectar wells filled with fragrant honey. As the busy bees extract the luscious honey their body hairs become fairly yellowed with the sticky grains of pollen. Then flying from flower to flower some of the pollen becomes dislodged from their host carriers and adheres to the honeyed stigmas of the female blooms. Almost at once the pollen takes root, sending forth fertilizing filaments to penetrate the seminal cavity and its burden of seed. As if conscious of this transformation, the surface of the stigma suddenly becomes sealed and crusted over to close off all further supply of nectar, while provident Nature sends the pollen laden bees elsewhere in search of unattended pistillate blooms still in possession of their aromatic allure.



by judicious pruning. If your neighbor has both a fruiting and a male holly it may not be necessary for you to plant another male as the latter by its greater profusion of flowers will readily provide pollen for twenty-five or more of the female berrying hollies of the same species, and located in the immediate neighborhood.

## *Our Hollies will reach you potted in Oregon Soil*

Did you know that hollies, or most of them, are classed as "broad leafed ever-greens" by the nursery trade. This means, among other things, that to insure the uninterrupted growth of the hollies and your satisfaction and pleasure they must be shipped with the soil in which they are growing. Our potted hollies are shipped with all roots intact in the very pots in which they have been growing, and are perfectly packaged to assure their reaching you in safe condition. They really scarcely know anything has happened when they wake up some morning in far away New York or Virginia. They just take a big swallow of water and go right on growing for their new-found folks. Every month in the year we ship our hollies as there's really no one best time for sending or receiving them. If it's too cold or hot to set out-of-doors at once, just keep them in their pots. They're already planted and will be very patient about waiting to be placed in their permanent homes.

Extra large field-grown specimen hollies which must be lifted, balled, burlapped and crated should be shipped preferably at just the right season when the roots are bestirring themselves and they are ready to take hold and grow in their new environment. Spring months are the best time to plant these larger specimen hollies to give them a chance to get a good grip on things before the coming of winter.

## *A Miniature Holly Arboretum*

If you've ever wondered how you could ever possibly come to know even just a few of the lovely members of the holly family because of lack of planting space, let me tell you what some of our friends are doing. They buy fifteen or twenty or more of the little two or three year potted hollies, exotic types, orientals and a selection to suit their fancy. Then they make a small formal garden of deep peat moss, sawdust or sand, and plunge the pots full down to protect the roots from freezing in the winter and burning in the summer. There they are watered and nourished, pruned and shaped, until they crowd their living space, and are then used as living Christmas presents to grace the gardens of friends and neighbors. Afterwards they are replaced with a fresh selection of other hollies to give their delighted owners a still wider speaking acquaintance with the Hollies of the World.

## *"For You a Rose in Portland Grows"*

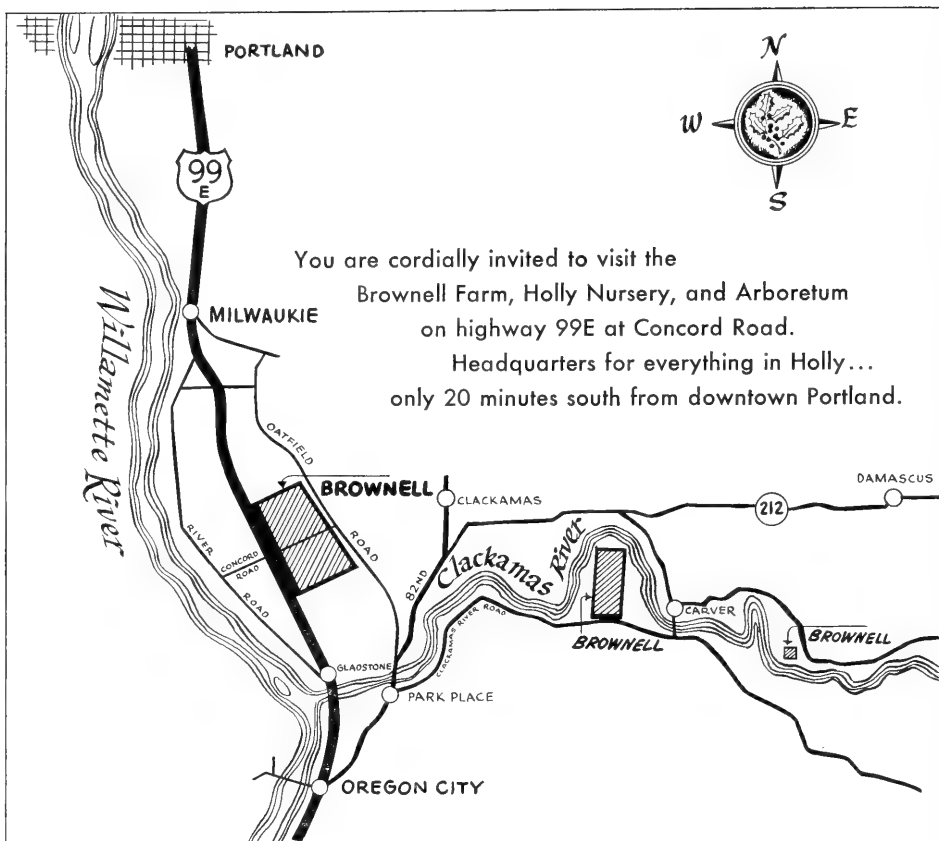
... for years the official slogan of the Portland Rose Festival Association today might well be paraphrased: "*For You there Jolly Well Grows a Holly, by Golly.*" Yes, and already planted in its pot of Oregon soil, growing away like mad just waiting to please you and your friends and neighbors. This is your invitation to write today for a new illustrated booklet titled "*Let's Plant Your Holly.*" You'll find it most complete and filled with up-to-date information on when and how and where to plant your holly, feeding and cultivating, pruning and weather protection, ideas gained from a lifetime with the hollies, plus a lot of other helpful tips received over the years from our customers, and all yours free for the asking.



One of our favorite portraits of a scholar and a gentleman, Dr. H. Harold Hume, taken in December, 1951, as he studies a Silvery holly (*Ilex Aquifolium Argentea Marginata*) in full berry at the Brownell Ilexetum, and described in his now famous book of the "Hollies."

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# BROWNELL FARMS

P. O. Box 5965, Milwaukie, Oregon

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First National Bank of Oregon City, Oregon  
Oregon State College, Corvallis, Oregon

MEMBERSHIPS: American Association of Nurserymen  
American Forestry Association  
Florists Telegraph Delivery Association  
Holly Society of America  
Oregon Holly Growers Association  
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For key to the listing of the hollies see page 10



6271

-1759-

# PRICE LIST OF *Hollies*

FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

## BROWNELL HOLLY NURSERY



3-year Silvary

Named species and varieties of  
**EUROPEAN, ORIENTAL AND AMERICAN ILEX**

*Original Horticultural Introductions  
of English Holly*

**HOLLIES OF DISTINCTION  
AUTHENTICALLY NAMED  
AND IDENTIFIED**

### SPECIMEN STOCK POT GROWN IN OREGON SOIL

Age of Hollies.....	1 yr.	2 yr.	3 yr.	4 yr.	5 yr.	6 yr.
Price of Single Holly.....	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$6.00	\$7.50
Approximate Shipping Weight, Pounds.....	3	5 to 8	16 to 18	20 to 25		

Orders for 10 or more hollies of any age furnished at 5 per cent discount.

Orders for 25 or more hollies of any age furnished at 10 per cent discount.

All prices are f.o.b., Portland, Oregon. See terms of sale on back page.

### SPECIAL PRICES FOR MINIATURE ARBORETUMS OF ENGLISH HOLLIES

SIX ENGLISH HOLLIES,  
each a different named  
variety including one  
male pollinator. All to  
be of our choice.

**6**

2 yr.	3 yr.	4 yr.	5 yr.	6 yr.
\$17.10	\$22.80	\$28.50	\$34.20	\$42.75

TEN ENGLISH HOLLIES,  
each a different named  
variety including two  
male pollinators. All to  
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**BROWNELL FARMS, MILWAUKIE, OREGON**

*See index to Holly Catalog on inside pages* ➤

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\* Refers to Brownell named varieties of English Holly.

\*\* Refers to Brownell horticultural selections of English Holly.

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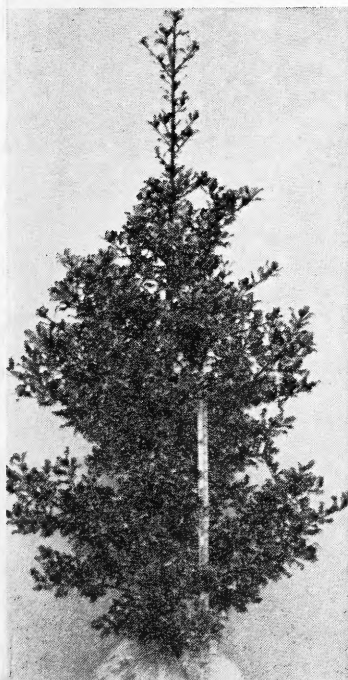
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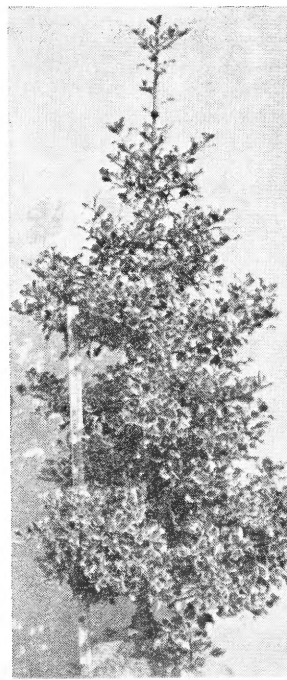
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